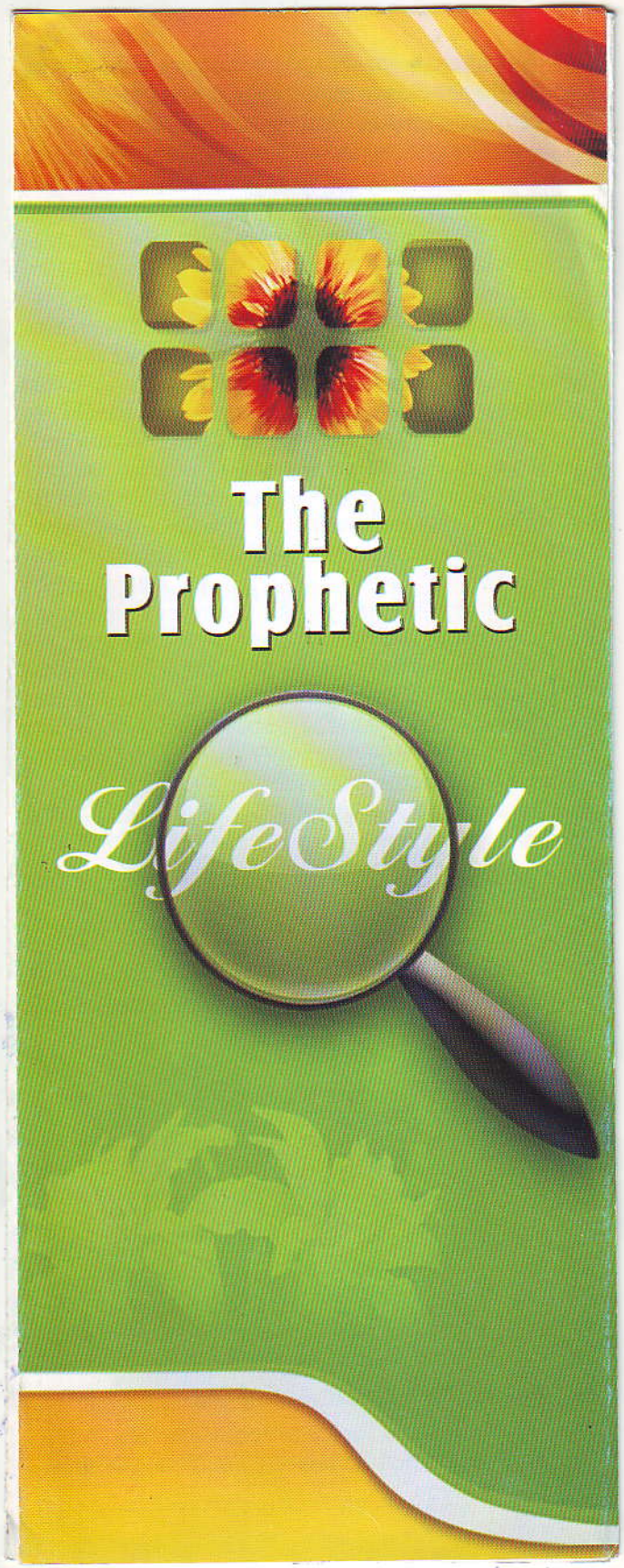
The
Prophetic
LifeStyle

The correct way of life for man is to live in complete obedience to Almighty. It is not for man to determine the mode of worship and obedience; it is for God Almighty to decide this. God Almighty, being the master, has raised from time to time prophets for the guidance of humanity and has revealed His books through them. It is the duty of man to take the code of his life from these sources of divine guidance. Man is answerable to God Almighty for all his actions in life. The time for rendering an account will be in the life-hereafter and not in this world. The short span of worldly life is really an opportunity to prepare for that great test. In this life all efforts of man should be centered on the object of soliciting the Pleasure and Blessings of God Almighty in the Hereafter. During this test every person is responsible for all his beliefs and actions. He, with all his faculties and potentialities, is on trial. There will be an impartial assessment of his conduct in life. By a Being Who keeps a complete and correct record not merely of his movements and actions and their influence on all that is in the world from the tiniest speck of dust to the loftiest mountains but also a full record of his innermost ideas and feelings and intentions. We call it "The Prophetic Lifestyle". Let's give a glimpse at the main features of this lifestyle.

Greeting

The Prophetic way to greet other is to say, "Assalamu Alaikum" (May peace and blessings be upon you).

1. One who is riding should greet one who is walking, one who is walking should greet one who is sitting and a small company should greet a large one.
2. Those who are nearest to Allah are they who are first to give a salutation (Say *Assalamu A'laikum*).

"One who cuts ties of relationship will not enter paradis

Human Relations

"What rights can parents demand from their children?" a person asked. The Prophet (PBUH) replied, "They are your paradise (if you serve them) and your hell (if you disobey them)."

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

1. "... if you show mercy to those who are in the earth, He Who is in heaven (i.e. Allah) will show mercy to you."
2. "He does not belong to us who does not show mercy to our young ones and respect to our old ones, who does not recommend what is reputable and prohibit what is disreputable."
3. "The believer is not the one who eats his fill when the neighbor beside him is hungry."
4. "Avoid envy, for envy devours good deeds just as fire devours fuel."
5. "To hold good thoughts (about another person) is a part of well-conducted worship."
6. "I and the one who takes responsibility for an orphan, whether his own kin or of others, will be in paradise like this." And the Prophet pointed his forefinger and the middle finger with a very slight space between them."

Good Character

"He who is deprived of gentleness is deprived of good."

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

1. "Modesty is part of faith and faith is in paradise, but obscenity is part of hardness of heart and hardness of heart is in hell."
2. "Righteousness is good character, and sin is that which revolves in your heart and which you do not want people to know."

Alla h will increase our provision if we welcome our guests

Hospitality

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

1. "Whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day should honor his guest; whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day should not annoy his neighbors; and whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day should say what is good or keep silent."
2. "Whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day should honor his guest. Provisions for the road are what will serve for a day and night; hospitality extends for three days; what goes beyond that is charity; and it is not allowable that a guest should stay till he makes himself an encumbrance."

Humble Living

Abu Dharr said, "My friend, (Prophet

Muhammad (PBUH),) ordered me to observe seven things. He ordered me to love the poor and be near them; he ordered me to consider myself inferior and not consider myself superior; he ordered me to join ties of relationship even when relatives are at a distance; he ordered me not to ask anyone for anything; he ordered me to speak the truth even when it is bitter; he ordered me not to fear for Allah's sake reproach anyone may cast on me; and he ordered me to repeat often, 'There is no might and no power except in God,' for these words are a part of the treasure under the throne." (In Arabic: "La howla wa la quwwata illa billah.)

The upper (i.e giving) hand is better than the lower (i.e taking) hand

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

1. "When one of you looks at someone who is superior to him in property and appearance, he should look at someone who is inferior to him."
2. "Allah loves His poor, believing servant who refrains from begging and yet has children."

Acting Wisely

Allah likes; gentleness and deliberation

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

1. "You have two characteristics which Allah likes; gentleness and deliberation."
2. "When a person tells something and then departs it is a kind of trust.(His words should be treated confidential)."

Good Manners

"Nothing is weightier on the Scale of Deeds than one's good manners."

- The Prophet (PBUH) never expressed disapproval of food; if he desired it he ate it and if he disliked it he left it alone.
- The Prophet (PBUH) forbade breathing or blowing into a vessel.
- Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) never found fault with food. If he had inclination to eating it, he would eat; and if he disliked it, he would leave it.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

1. "When any of you eats, he should eat with his right hand and when he drinks he should drink with his right hand."
2. "The most evil of the people to Allah on the Day of Resurrection will be the man who consorts with his wife and then publicizes her secret (in friends)."
3. "Three are the signs of a hypocrite: When he speaks, he lies; when he makes a promise he breaks it; and when he is trusted, he betrays his trust."
4. "It is also charity to utter good word."
5. "Feed the hungry, visit the sick and free the captive."
6. "When you visit an invalid tell him to make a supplication for you, for his supplication is like of the angels."

Your sickness is sinning and your remedy is to seek forgiveness

Avoiding Sin

Abdullah Ibn Umar narrates that Muhammad (PBUH) cursed the taker and giver of bribery.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

1. "If anyone guarantees me what is between his jaws and what is between his legs (i.e. he should not commit fornication), I shall guarantee him paradise."
2. "Adhere to truth, for truth leads to good deeds and good deeds lead him who does them to paradise. Falsehood is wickedness and wickedness leads to hell."
3. "Two hungry wolves let loose in a flock of sheep do not cause so much damage to the flock as does the love of wealth and vanity to one's Deen (Religion, Belief)."
4. "Coarse talk does not come into anything without disgracing it, and modesty does not come into anything without adorning it."

"Ask your Lord for forgiveness and then turn in repentance to Him," (Qur'an-11:3)

Repentance

Humans have a tendency to make mistakes or commit sin but after it

everybody feels guilty for what he did. But God Almighty loves those who realizes and repents from what he did. The Noble Qur'an says,

"Seek forgiveness of your Rubb (Lord), and turn to Him in repentance." (Ch:11, V:3)

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

1. "Verily, Allah is more delighted with the repentance of His slave than a person who lost his camel in a desert land and then finds it (unexpectedly)."
2. "If a son of Adam (i.e. Human) were to own a valley full of gold, he would desire to have two. Nothing can fill his mouth except the earth (of the grave). Allah turns with mercy to him who turns to Him in repentance."

Family Caring

We are obliged by God to be responsible for our children as they are the prime fruit of a family, and God has entrusted us with nurturing them according to His teachings. If we pass this test of responsibility, then Paradise is the highest reward; otherwise, it is a straight route to Hellfire.

"Verily your wealth and children are only a test, whereas Allah! With Him is a great reward (Paradise)" (Qur'an:

Communication Skills

First and foremost is the skill of communication between parents and children so that both are on the same mental wavelength and share the same vision, as we see in the example of Prophet Abraham and his young son Prophet Ismail.

"And, when he (his son) was old enough to walk with him, he said: "O my son! I have seen in a dream that I am slaughtering you (offering you in sacrifice to Allah). So look what you think!" He said: "O my father! Do that which you are commanded, Insha' Allah (if Allah wills), you shall find me of the patients" (Qur'an- 37: 102)

Even though Prophet Abraham was not obligated to ask his son before fulfilling the command of his Lord, he valued the opinion of his son and also strengthened their relationship by giving respect and honor to his son. Thus, Prophet Abraham taught all humanity a moral lesson of parenting that we ought to have a strong bond with our progeny, such that they will never let down our expectations. Prophet Ismail not only lived up to the expectations of his father here, but even went one step ahead in bolstering the will of Prophet Abraham in this severe test.

Strong communication within family members gels the unit into an unbreakable network, which can wither every storm of catastrophe headed in their direction, as we see in the example of Prophet Abraham and his wife Hagar. When Prophet Abraham left her and their newborn baby Ismail in the desert of Makkah by the Kaabah without knowing the reason, the only thing she asked was that did God order him to do this? The Prophet replied in the affirmative and Hagar relaxed saying if that is the case, then God will never waste us, for He is the Master who will not let down His slaves.

This was the fruit of the nurturing of Prophet Abraham with his wife Hagar that she did not argue with her husband even though she was being deserted with a newborn baby where there was no vegetation. Hence, the wife and son reaped the rewards of patience such that God flowed pure zamzam water beneath the feet of baby Ismail and made the trekking of Safa and Marwah a lifelong ritual for Muslims until the Day of Judgment. Such are the dividends from the Creator when the family, as a unit, is in sync with its Master and His Commandments upon this earth.

Remembrance of God Almighty

"Verily in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find rest." (Qur'an 13:28)

Dhikr (remembrance) is an all-embracing term that, in addition to including the ritual acts of worship, covers an array of activities of the tongue and heart. It involves thinking of and making mention of God Almighty at all times and in every area of our lives. This is the worship that has no special time, but is performed constantly so that it permanently links up man's life with God Almighty and His service. This keeps alive our feeling of being slave of one Supreme Creator who is all hearer, all seeing and the master of our each and every affair. This also generates a fear of God in one's heart which stops him from sinning.

Now have a look on the sayings of some great Personalities about Muhammad's (PBUH) life

and his teachings;

Mahatma Gandhi, statement published in *'Young India,'1924.*

I wanted to know the best of the life of one who holds today an undisputed sway over the hearts of millions of mankind.... I became more than ever convinced that it was not the sword that won a place for Islam in those days in the scheme of life. It was the rigid simplicity, the utter self-effacement of the Prophet (Muhammad (PBUH)) the scrupulous regard for pledges, his intense devotion to his friends and followers, his intrepidity, his fearlessness, his absolute trust in God and in his own mission. These and not the sword carried everything before them and surmounted every obstacle. When I closed the second volume (of the Prophet's biography), I was sorry there was not more for me to read of that great life.

The Irish playwright George Bernard Shaw says about Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)

"I have always held the religion of Muhammad in high estimation because of its wonderful vitality. It is the only religion which appears to me to possess that assimilating capacity to the changing phase of existence which can make itself appeal to every age. I have studied him - the wonderful man and in my opinion for from being an anti-Christ, he must be called the Savior of Humanity." *('The Genuine Islam,' Vol. 1, No. 8, 1936.)*

Gibbon in *'The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire' 1823*

The good sense of Muhammad (PBUH) despised the pomp of royalty. The Apostle of God submitted to the menial offices of the family; he kindled the fire; swept the floor; milked the ewes; and mended with his own hands his shoes and garments. Disdaining the penance and merit of a hermit, he observed without effort of vanity the abstemious diet of an Arab.

Please write or call us for the FREE copy of the Noble Qur'an in your language to know this divine lifestyle revealed on and practiced by the Messengers of our True Creator.

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